

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image processing method and apparatus using an input unit for inputting image data, a processing unit for quantizing error-correction data obtained by adding error data to the image data input by the input unit so that data having at least two levels are generated, and an allocation unit for allocating the error data generated when the quantization is performed to image data which are not quantized. In response to a predetermined level of the error-correction data, the processing unit outputs, as a result of quantization, a different level from a level resulting from fundamental processing for the predetermined level so as to prevent a pseudocontour from being generated